

Draft of Meeting Minutes
Northern Lake Michigan Islands Collaborative-Cultural Subcommittee Meeting
Peaine Township Hall
April 12, 2016 at 7 p.m.
Call in number 1-415-464-6800 Pass code 49782#

Attendees: In attendance: Alvin LaFreniere, Kitty McNamara, Pam Grassmick On the phone: Lee Boisvert, Terry Bussey, and Jennifer Kleitch

Goals: Cultural Subcommittee to begin to address Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 as outlined in the Management Plan for State-owned Lands on Northern Lake Michigan Islands.

Action Items:

- Boisvert to work with Andrews to provide a draft which defines cultural for the subcommittee to be used in all planning that reflects Native American and early European values.
- McNamara to work with either county or tribal GIS departments to provide a pdf of the 2008 Beaver Island Historical Map to be used as a layer for sites of cultural significance.
- Kleitch to submit electronically the state's archaeological map of Beaver Island. Jennifer will also send this subcommittee's minutes out to the entire Collaborative.
- All subcommittee members to review goals and key threats and stressors as identified in minutes for the next meeting.
- Begin to develop a list of relevant culturally significant areas that should be considered for strategies.

Minutes:

1. Lee Boisvert called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Introductions were made.
2. As this was the first working group meeting, no previous minutes were in need of approval. The agenda which was circulated via email to the subcommittee was approved with no modifications.
3. Discussion of Northern Lake Michigan Islands Collaborative activities to date was given by Jennifer Kleitch. The group's charter has been established along with subcommittees such as the water trail, invasives, landscape level planning, and the cultural subcommittee. Trails work will take place this summer. Lee asked Jennifer to clarify cultural and ecological definition. She stated that the goal was to maintain the integrity of cultural and ecological sites. Discussion of ecological and cultural attributes being the same for Native Americans followed. Early European and Native American sites across the archipelago will be the focus of the subcommittee. Jennifer suggested that the Wildlife Division may be able to assist on data collection for a map overlay. Cultural landscape designations are being pursued by Wes Andrews. The cultural definition developed by Wes Andrews for the NLMI Collaborative Plan was read by Lee. It was suggested that the group develop a list of important sites and include Mormon and Native American villages. Spiritual places were suggested to be added to the list. Lee will re-write and submit the cultural definition to the subcommittee. The suggestion to place this definition on agendas and minutes will help keep the subcommittee focused. The Beaver Island Historical Map will be sent to the LTBB or county GIS Department to be scanned and used for an overlay. LiDar use for the islands was discussed and upcoming grant opportunities. The consensus was that the cultural subcommittee goals will cover the outer islands.
4. What are the priorities? Those priorities included defining cultural resources for Native American and early European settlers, designating various cultural resources for Beaver Island, preserving outer island cultural areas and

improved education of cultural resources.

Key stressors and threats to cultural assets were identified and examples given. They include (in no particular order): no involvement in the landscape level planning process or trails, forestry practices, lack of knowledge by visitors and islanders, lack of funding for monitoring, climate change, invasives-both plant and animal, private property issues-GI Cemetery, and removal of stone structures during excavation and road placement. Discussion took place on the need of culturally sensitive areas to be acknowledged by island planning commissions.

When developing a list of the islands' cultural assets, McNamara suggested developing common signage with a similar look perhaps one color for Native sites, another color for Mormon or Early European-Green for Irish.

Set goals of Cultural Subcommittee: The review of goals was tabled until the next meeting due to time. The subcommittee was asked to review the goals and make additions or corrections. Grassmick is to send out the initial draft of goals to subcommittee. Terry Bussey will be on Beaver Island participating with historical survey work on May 13-16 and again in July to search for ancient forests off High Island.

The 3 draft goals submitted for consideration are:

Goal 1: Integrate ecological and cultural features into the landscape level planning process.

- a. Improve the Collaborative understanding through education on the need to develop landscape level plans with attention to ecological and cultural features. Define cultural resources as including ecological resources.
- b. Identify key stressors and gaps in knowledge
- c. Develop culturally appropriate strategies to protect ecological and cultural features.
- d. Monitor response to cultural strategies

Goal 2: Provide a dynamic educational environment that is inclusive of Native American and early European settler's histories, cultural traditions, and perspectives.

- a. Increase and enhance networks with tribal communities and tribal education entities with the Beaver Island Community School, the Lighthouse School, and BI Historical Society through educational events.
- b. Develop internships and community learning opportunities with LTBB and GTBB and the Beaver Island community.
- c. Integrate Native American and early European history, cultural traditions, and perspectives in all forms of interpretive signage or materials developed by collaborative.

Goal 3: Maximize technological innovations to address the needs of protecting and improving the understanding of the Archipelago's Native American and early European presence and monitor sites of cultural and ecological significance.

- a. Engage partners as appropriate in grant funding activities.
6. Steps forward: Subcommittee will plan to meet in May. As members of this subcommittee may change, it is expected that the partnerships may change to meet goals.
7. Next meeting date was held open until we hear back on dates from Bussey.
8. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Grassmick 4/13/2016